

MARVEL

1

MARGARET STOHL • JUAN FERREYRA

SPIDER-MAN NOIR



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

HotComic.net

NEW YORK CITY. 1939.

IN AN ERA OF MOBSTERS AND MONSTERS, CRIME AND
CORRUPTION RUN RAMPANT THROUGH THE CITY'S STREETS.

FOR A TIME, THE PEOPLE WERE PROTECTED BY **THE SPIDER-MAN**,
A MASKED VIGILANTE WHO COULD CLIMB UP WALLS AND SWING
FROM WEBS WHILE BRANDISHING A COLT .45.

AND THEN HE VANISHED AND WAS PRESUMED DEAD.

BUT AFTER A NAZI ZEPPELIN WAS BROUGHT DOWN OVER MIDTOWN
BY A PAIR OF WALL-CRAWLING INTERLOPERS, WHISPERS OF HIS
RETURN HAVE BEGUN ANEW.

SPIDER-MAN NOIR

MARGARET STOHL writer

JUAN FERREYRA artist

VC'S TRAVIS LANHAM letterer

DAVE RAPOZA cover artist

**MARK BAGLEY & RICHARD ISANOVE;
RON LIM & ISRAEL SILVA; JAVIER GARRÓN
& GURU-eFX** variant cover artists

JAY BOWEN logo designer

DANNY KHAZEM assistant editor

DEVIN LEWIS editor

NICK LOWE executive editor

C.B. CEBULSKI editor in chief

SPIDER-MAN created by **STAN LEE & STEVE DITKO**

© 2020 MARVEL. No similarity between any of the names, characters,
persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living
or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which
may exist is purely coincidental.

Midtown Manhattan.
Peter Parker, private eye.
Lunch hour.

...AND NOW
BACK TO 'IT AIN'T
THE FUNNY PAPERS'...
RADIO NYC'S TRUE
CRIME HOUR,
RIPPED FROM THE
HEADLINES...





NOT
AT MY
BANK.

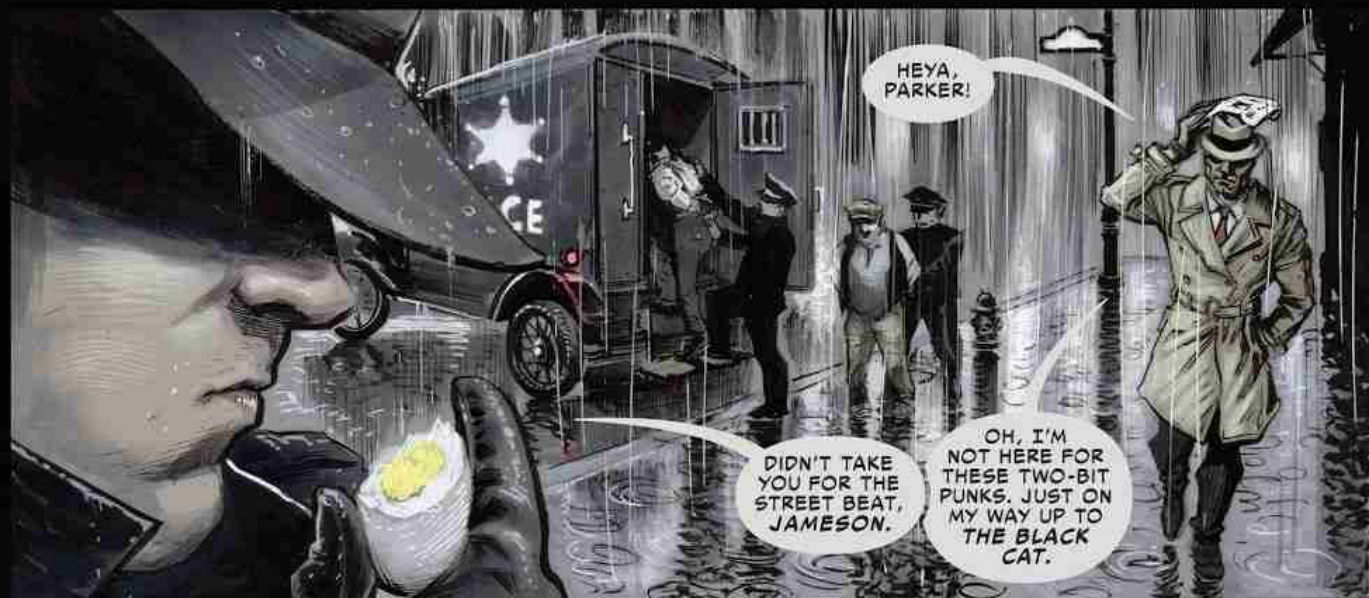
**BANG
BANG
BANG
BA**



NOT ON
MY STREET.









FELLAS.

PLACE IS CRAWLING WITH COPPERS, BUT THEY'LL LET A COUPLE A' MOOKS WALK THE CRIME SCENE JUST LIKE THAT?

I GAVE TO THE PRECINCT. KICKED IN A FEW CLAMS FOR THE POLICEMAN'S BALL. SHOULD BUY US MAYBE TEN MINUTES...

SO WALK FAST. I GOT IT.

NOW HIRING



JOINT TOOK A REGULAR BEATING.

SOMETHING DOESN'T ADD UP.

YOU'RE TELLING ME. LOOKS LIKE THE KINGPIN'S BOYS, BUT WHO LEAVES A BUNCH A' C'S IN THE REGISTER?

I KNOW HER.



YEAH? WHO'S THE BROAD? SHE'S A REAL LOOKER.

HOLLY BABSON. WAITRESS WITH A NOSE FOR TROUBLE... WHICH COMES IN HANDY WHEN YOU MOONLIGHT AS A POLICE INFORMANT.



HOW D'YA LIKE THAT OLD SONG?

I DON'T. SWEET KID. DIDN'T DESERVE TO GET THE BUMP, NOT LIKE THAT.

WHAT'S IN HER MITT?

SOME KIND OF JEWELRY? MAYBE A BROOCH? NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE.



DAMES AND SHINY STUFF. THEY'RE LIKE CROWS. AND THAT'S ONE BIG ROCK.

BIG ENOUGH TO KILL FOR?

YOU'RE THE PRIVATE EYE, YOU TELL ME.

WHAT'S IT LOOK LIKE TO YOU? THAT SHAPE?

A BEETLE?



A CLUE.

THAT'S WHAT I WAS HOPING. YOU MAKE THE KILLER, I MAKE THE STORY.

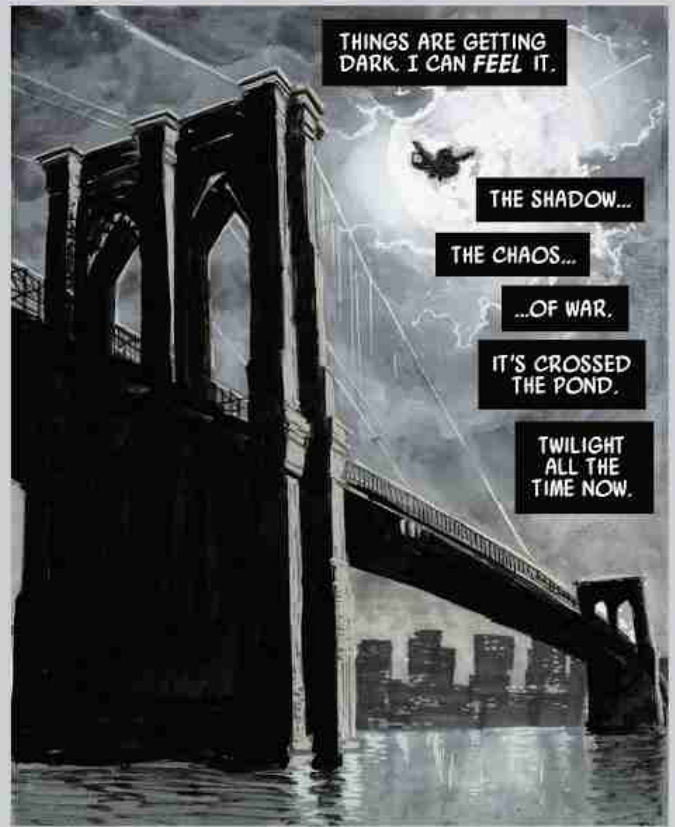
SAME OLD SONG, JAMESON.

TIME'S UP. YOU TWO-- OUTTA HERE.



LAST MONTH I HAD TO TAKE OUT A REGULAR BLIMP FULL OF NAZIS OVER THE HUDSON.

NOW FELICIA'S JOINT GETS THE BEATDOWN AND HOLLY GETS ICED? WHILE I'M, WHAT? OFF CHASING BANK ROBBERS?



THINGS ARE GETTING DARK. I CAN FEEL IT.

THE SHADOW...

THE CHAOS...

...OF WAR.

IT'S CROSSED THE POND.

TWILIGHT ALL THE TIME NOW.



I CAN'T DO ANYTHING TO STOP IT.

I CAN'T DO EVERYTHING.

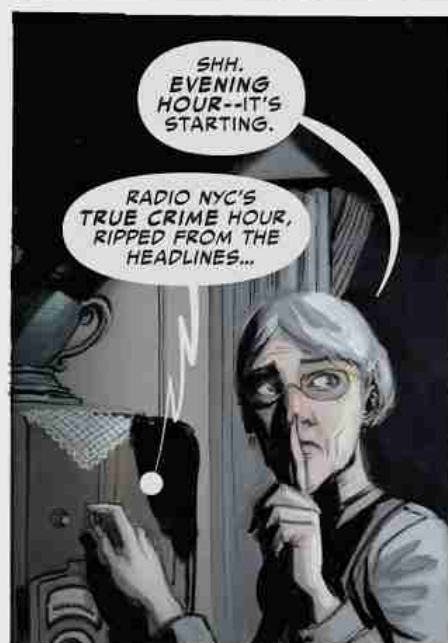
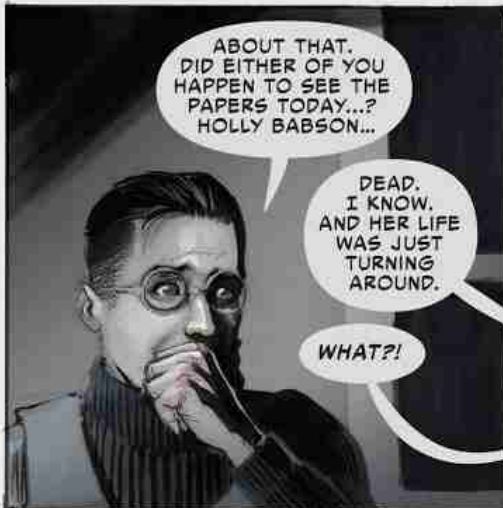


BUT IF I CAN'T? WHO CAN?

WHO CAN WHAT, PETE?



RHETORICAL QUESTION, MARY JANE.





...N.Y.P.D.
WON'T REST
UNTIL IT CLOSES
THE BOOKS ON THE
BRUTAL CASE OF
THE ATTACK AT
BLACK CAT...



BROOCH.
ANIMAL-AND/OR INSECT-
THEMED. ANCIENT.
GEM CUT. RARE.
VALUABLE...

INSIDE
VOICES,
PLEASE.

YES,
MA'AM.



LATE ANTIQUITY?
EARLY MIDDLE AGES?
BYZANTINE? CAN'T WE
JUST SAY OLD?

SHHUSHH!!!

YES,
MA'AM.



LIBRARIANS. THEY
REALLY DO A NUMBER ON
YOUR HEAD. MY SPIDER-
SENSES ARE LIGHTING UP
LIKE TIMES SQUARE...



THERE YOU ARE. YOU'RE NOT
A BEETLE. YOU'RE A...CICADA?
BABYLONIAN? BUT HOW'D YOU
GET INTO THE HANDS OF A
WAITRESS AT THE BLACK CAT...

...AND YOU THINK I CAN
RIP THIS PAGE OUT? I'LL
PUT IT BACK, I SWEAR...



DON'T
EVEN THINK
ABOUT IT.

YES,
M--



HEY,
WHO CUT THE
LIGHTS?!

POWER
MUSTA GONE
OUT!

INSIDE
VOICES!!!

CLICKK!!

ZZZZZZT. ZZZTT.



DON'T THINK
THAT WAS A
LIBRARIAN.

HOLY
TOLEDO!

WHAT
WAS
THAT?!

NOBODY
PANIC. OUR
GENERATORS
SHOULD BE BACK
ON IN THREE...
TWO...
ONE...



"HOLY
TOLEDO"
IS RIGHT.
MY BOOK...
THAT
PAGE...



GONE?!
BUT IT WAS
THERE A
SECOND
AGO...

YOU SHOULD
BE ASHAMED OF
YOURSELF. DEFACING
LIBRARY PROPERTY.
I EXPECTED
BETTER FROM A...
BYZANTINIST.

BUT...

LOOKS LIKE
MY MISSING PAGE
IS MAKING A BREAK
FOR IT. NO TIME
TO ARGUE.



YES,
MA'AM.

WHOEVER THEY
ARE, THEY'RE
FAST. FASTER
THAN ME.



CAN'T LET
THEM MAKE
IT TO THE--



--STREET.

GREAT.

LOST 'EM.
AND I HAVEN'T
GOT A CLUE
WHERE THEY'LL
BE NEXT.



WHAT
THE--



WELL...

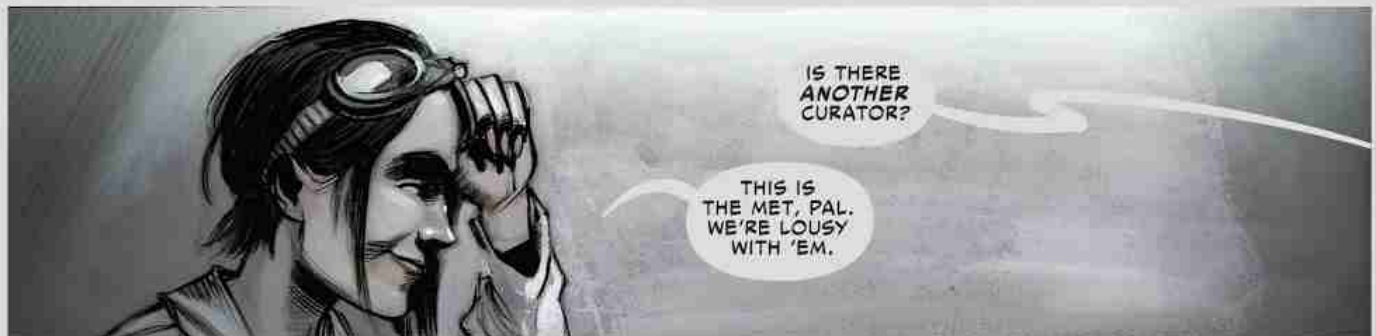
MAYBE I
HAVE ONE
CLUE.



"TWILIGHT
IN BABYLON"?
AT THE MET?
WELL, YOU DON'T
SAY...



Metropolitan Museum of Art.





WHERE DID YOU GET THAT? MY SISTER HAS ONE JUST LIKE IT.

FOUND IT ON A WAITRESS NAMED HOLLY BABSON--

OR HELGA BERGMANN. MY SISTER WANTS TO BE... MORE AMERICAN. I'M HUMA. DR. HUMA BERGMANN.

I'M AFRAID I HAVE SOME BAD NEWS, DR. BERGMANN.



HELGA WAS HOLDING THIS...

PLEASE, NO--

...WHEN SHE DIED.



I...I CAN'T...

WHOA. TAKE IT EASY, DOC. DON'T GO FAINTING ON ME, NOW.

I THINK... I THINK I NEED SOME AIR.



THE CICADA STONE DATES BACK TO 600 A.D. DR. HELLSTROM WAS GOING TO CARRY IT BY HAND FROM BERLIN. TOO VALUABLE TO SHIP.

VALUABLE ENOUGH TO KILL FOR? HOW'D IT WIND UP IN YOUR SISTER'S HANDS? GIFT FROM THE MISSING DOC?

IMPOSSIBLE. HELGA AND HEINRICH DON'T...DIDN'T... EVEN KNOW EACH OTHER, MR. PARKER.

HEINRICH? YOU TWO CLOSE?

NOT AS CLOSE AS I THOUGHT, IT SEEMS.



WE HAVE TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS.

YOU SURE? I KNOW CASES LIKE THIS, AND 'THE BOTTOM' MEANS ROCK BOTTOM. TEN BUCKS SAYS YOUR DOC DOESN'T WANT TO BE FOUND.

I DON'T CARE. TOMORROW A CARGO SHIP WILL CARRY A SHIPMENT OF ARTIFACTS ACROSS THE ATLANTIC. I PLAN TO BE ON IT.

DO YA NOW?



WHAT ABOUT YOU, MR. PARKER? YOU'RE THE DETECTIVE. YOU SAID IT YOURSELF, YOU KNOW CASES LIKE THIS... SO WILL YOU HELP ME FIND MY SISTER'S KILLER?

WISH I COULD, BUT I GOT MY HANDS FULL WITH THE FIVE BOROUGHs.



IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND, BE AT THE WHITE PLAINS AIRFIELD AT SEVEN.

DON'T HOLD YOUR BREATH, DOC.

THEN I SUPPOSE THIS IS GOODBYE.



YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY, MR. PARKER? WITH GREAT POWER COMES...

A GREAT BIG POWER BILL. ASK MANHATTAN ELECTRIC.

SO LONG, DOC.

NONE OF THIS IS ADDING UP. "NOW HIRING." I SAW THE SIGN MYSELF, IN THE WINDOW OF THE CAT. BUT HOLLY TOLD MJ THERE WERE NO OPENINGS. WHY? HOW MUCH TROUBLE WAS SHE IN?

HOW DOES A DAME LIKE THAT END UP WITH A THIRTEEN-HUNDRED-YEAR-OLD ROCK... AND WHAT DOES SHE HAVE TO DO WITH A MISSING GERMAN BYZANTINIST? THE ONE HER SISTER SAYS SHE DIDN'T EVEN KNOW?



MY HEAD IS SPINNING. WAS HELGA LYING? OR IS HUMA? WHO CAN I TRUST NOW?

IS THAT A RHETORICAL QUESTION?



MJ? BUT WHO'S THAT BEHIND--

DUCK!

HUNH?



I CAN'T SEE, MY EYES ARE SCREWY--THAT'S NO REGULAR FLASH...IT'S ALL A BLUR...

MJ! KEEP YOUR EYES CLOSED!

WHAAA?

FLASH!



FEELS LIKE ACID... IN MY EYES...

BACK OFF!

OOOF!!!

PETER! HELP!







The Next Morning. White Plains Military Base.



"HELP ME
FIND MY
SISTER'S
KILLER,
PETER."

NEW YORK

DUBLIN

LONDON

DUBLIN

PARIS

ROME

MADRID

LISBON

"SO LONG
AS YOU THINK
YOU'RE READY
FOR THE
ANSWER..."

"...I'LL TAKE
THE CASE,
DOC."

Rome

CONSTANTINOPLE

BABYLON

CAIRO

TO BE CONTINUED!

HotComic.net

NOTES NOIR

DATELINE: 2.5.2020

HELLO IN HERE, OUT THERE, AROUND THE WORLD AND ABOARD ALL THE SHIPS AT SEA! EDITOR DEVIN LEWIS REPORTING TO YOU LIVE AND IN PRINT FROM MARVEL HQ IN THE HEART OF NEW YORK!

IT'S OFFICIALLY A NEW YEAR, WHICH MEANS WE'VE GOT AN ENTIRELY NEW LINEUP OF MARVEL SERIES LAUNCHING THIS YEAR--INCLUDING THE ONE YOU'RE HOLDING IN YOUR HANDS RIGHT NOW, *SPIDER-MAN NOIR* #1!

SPIDER-MAN NOIR FIRST ROCKETED ONTO THE SCENE IN A FOUR-ISSUE MINISERIES CRAFTED BY DAVID HINE AND FABRICE SAPOLSKY WITH ART BY CARMINE DI GIANDOMENICO OVER TEN YEARS AGO, AND WHILE THAT WAS BEFORE MY TIME AT MARVEL, I IMAGINE THE GESTATION OF THE IDEA WAS SIMPLE ENOUGH: WHAT ABOUT A PERIOD *SPIDER-MAN* STORY? A FAITHFUL ADAPTATION OF THE POWER AND RESPONSIBILITY PARABLE WE ALL KNOW AND LOVE SET AGAINST A BACKDROP OF MOBSTERS AND MYSTERY?

BUT COMICS ARE NEVER SIMPLE, AND WITH ITS DARK SENSIBILITIES, PERIOD MELODRAMA AND UNIQUE, BEAUTIFUL ART STYLE, *SPIDER-MAN NOIR* WAS HARDLY A GUARANTEED HIT. JUST THE SAME, TAKING RISKS IS PART OF WHAT WE DO HERE AT THE HOUSE OF IDEAS, AND THE GAMBLE PAID OFF, AS THE SERIES WAS A RUNAWAY SUCCESS AND EVEN SPAWNED A FOUR-ISSUE SEQUEL THAT VERY SAME YEAR: *SPIDER-MAN NOIR: EYES WITHOUT A FACE*. CLEARLY, THERE WAS SOMETHING SPECIAL AT WORK HERE.

SO SPECIAL, IN FACT, THAT THE CHARACTER LEAPT OFF THE COMIC BOOK PAGE AND INTO OTHER MEDIA ALMOST IMMEDIATELY. DESPITE ONLY APPEARING IN ABOUT EIGHT PRINTED COMICS, *NOIR* WAS FEATURED AS A PLAYABLE CHARACTER IN ONE OF THE BEST *SPIDER-MAN* VIDEO GAMES OF ALL TIME, *SPIDER-MAN: SHATTERED DIMENSIONS* (ALONG WITH ABOUT HALF A DOZEN UNIQUE RIFFS ON HIS COSTUME), APPEARED IN ANIMATION AND MOST RECENTLY EVEN SWUNG ACROSS THE SILVER SCREEN IN *SPIDER-MAN: INTO THE SPIDER-VERSE* (MAYBE YOU'VE HEARD OF IT?).

IN THE YEARS SINCE, THE CHARACTER'S FOOTPRINT IN THE COMICS HAS ONLY GROWN. HE'S APPEARED IN THE CALAMITOUS "SPIDER-VERSE" AND "SPIDER-GEDDON" CROSSOVERS AND EVEN TRAVERSED THE MULTIVERSE WITH A TEAM OF OTHER SPIDER-MEN AND -WOMEN FIGHTING ALL MANNER OF THREATS (FREQUENT READERS OF OUR VARIOUS SPIDER-SERIES ARE ALREADY FAMILIAR WITH MY LAMENTATIONS ABOUT *WEB-WARRIORS*).

ALONG THE WAY, HE'S ENSNARED THE HEARTS OF SPIDER-PHILES AROUND THE WORLD, AND THE TWO CREATORS WHO MADE THE COMICS MAG YOU HOLD IN YOUR HANDS ARE NO DIFFERENT...

SO ENOUGH JABBER-JAWING FROM ME--LET'S HEAR FROM THEM!

GENIUS ELEVATES EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE AROUND IT. EXCELLENCE INSPIRES EXCELLENCE, AND TALENT ATTRACTS TALENT. CERTAIN PROJECTS, CERTAIN CHARACTERS, CERTAIN COLLABORATORS ARE JUST SO GOOD THAT THEY DEMAND YOUR A-GAME. FOR ME, *SPIDER-MAN NOIR*, AS A CHARACTER, IS ONE OF THEM--BUT JUAN FERREYRA, AS AN ARTIST, IS ANOTHER.

IN MY LONG LIFE AS A CREATOR, AND REALLY JUST AS A PERSON, I'VE LEARNED TO SEEK OUT AND SURROUND MYSELF WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE JUST BETTER THAN I AM. JUAN TRULY IS THAT, AND IF I'M HAPPY ABOUT ONE THING, IT'S HOW THIS BOOK IS ABLE TO SHOWCASE HIS EXCEPTIONAL VISION.

SO THAT'S THIS PROJECT. FROM THE FIRST MOMENT DEVIN AND DANNY KHAZEM, OUR ASSISTANT EDITOR, TALKED TO ME ABOUT IT, FROM THE FIRST IMAGE JUAN SKETCHED FOR IT, THIS HAS BEEN A JOYRIDE. THE KIND OF LABOR OF LOVE YOU HOPE FOR, DREAM ABOUT, THEN WORK EVEN HARDER ON THAN YOU NEED TO, BECAUSE YOU WANT TO. DEVIN AND DANNY CONTINUALLY PUSH ME TO TELL A PETER PARKER-WORTHY STORY, BUT ALSO A STORY THAT MATTERS.

I SPEND HALF MY TIME TRYING TO INVENT MOMENTS AND WRITE DIALOGUE WORTHY OF JUAN'S REMARKABLE GENIUS AND THEN THE OTHER HALF OF THE TIME TRYING TO STAY OUT OF HIS WAY AND LET HIM DO HIS THING. THOSE KINDS OF JAM SESSIONS ARE PURE JOY, BECAUSE YOU KNOW YOU'LL GET SOMEWHERE YOU COULD NEVER GET ON YOUR OWN.

BUT THIS IS ALSO MY PERSONAL DREAM PROJECT. AS SOMEONE WHO'S WORKED IN THE GAME INDUSTRY AND HAS BEEN THINKING AND READING AND WRITING ABOUT WORLD WAR II FOR A GOOD PART OF MY LIFE, SUBJECTING PETER PARKER TO THE "DRUMS OF WAR" HAS BEEN A PARTICULARLY SATISFYING CREATIVE COLLISION.

BEYOND THAT, AS SOMEONE WHO WATCHES OLD CAGNEY AND BOGART AND EDWARD G. ROBINSON MOVIES FOR THE LOVE OF THE BANTER, THE RHYTHM OF THE LANGUAGE AND THE HYPER-GENRE FEMME FATALES AND HARD-BOILED DETECTIVES--THE MOOKS AND THE GOONS AND THE DAMES AND THE GUMSHOES, EACH AS VIVID AS THE STRIKING BLACK-AND-WHITE *NOIR* LIGHTING ITSELF--I HAVE NEVER HAD MORE FUN.

WHEN DEVIN ASKED ME WHAT I THOUGHT ABOUT BUSTING PETER PARKER OUT OF NEW YORK CITY AND LETTING HIM LOOSE ON THE PRE-WAR WORLD STAGE, I HAD JUST RETURNED FROM BERLIN WITH MY ART HISTORIAN/ARCHAEOLOGIST DAUGHTER. AS I MENTIONED WHEN THIS PROJECT WAS FIRST ANNOUNCED, OUR SPIDER-MAN NOIR LITERALLY ENCAPSULATES MOST OF MY FAVORITE THINGS. DEADPAN SPIDEY HUMOR? CHECK. PUNCHING NAZIS? CHECK. A GLOBE-TROTTING ADVENTURE FEATURING A DOOMED EXCAVATION AND A POSSIBLE FEMME FATALE? CHECK, CHECK, CHECK.

ALL WHICH HAS MADE FOR WHAT CONTINUES TO BE A WILD RIDE, AND I, FOR ONE, AM JUST SO GRATEFUL TO BE HERE FOR IT, YA MOOKS. SO I'LL SEE YOU ON THE PAGE AND HOPE YOU FEEL THE SAME.

HAPPY READING, AND AS ALWAYS, THANKS FOR LETTING US DO OUR THING!

CHEERS,
MARGARET STOHL
@MSTOHL



I FEEL LIFE IS LIKE CIRCLES; FROM TIME TO TIME SURPRISES SPIN OUT OF IT AND THEY MAKE ME WONDER.

IN AUGUST 2006, I WAS DRAWING MY FIRST PROFESSIONAL COMIC--*REX MUNDI*. IT WAS SET IN THE 1930S AND TOOK PLACE IN EUROPE, AND I WAS HAVING A BLAST, AS I'VE ALWAYS LOVED THE IDEA OF VISITING EUROPE. BORN IN ARGENTINA, I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN REALLY FAR AWAY FROM EUROPE, AND DRAWING A COMIC SET IN FRANCE ONLY REINFORCED MY WILL TO SOMEDAY TRAVEL THERE.

BUT THAT COMIC ALSO MADE ME WONDER ABOUT WHAT TYPE OF THINGS I WANTED FROM MY WORK. BEFORE BREAKING IN, I WANTED DESPERATELY TO DRAW SUPER HEROES, BUT THE PERIOD STORY OF *REX MUNDI* WAS A LOT OF FUN IN WAYS I NEVER THOUGHT IT WOULD BE--SO MUCH SO THAT IT TOOK ME EIGHT YEARS TO FINALLY GET TO SUPER HERO COMICS, DESPITE EVENTUALLY MAKING IT TO EUROPE SEVERAL TIMES.

BY SEPTEMBER OF 2019, I HAD DECIDED TO LIVE IN FRANCE FOR A FEW MONTHS AFTER FINALLY STARTING TO WORK ON SUPER HERO COMICS FOR MARVEL. I WAS DRAWING *PUNISHER* IN THE MORNING AND WALKING ALONG THE SEINE IN THE AFTERNOON, BUT STILL THINKING OF THAT OLD COMIC I GOT MY START ON AND ALL THE FUN I HAD HAD DRAWING EUROPE IN THE '30S.

AROUND THAT TIME, I RECEIVED AN EMAIL FROM EDITOR DEVIN LEWIS WITH AN OFFER TO DRAW *SPIDER-MAN NOIR*. I WAS SHOCKED; I ALWAYS HAD THE DREAM OF DRAWING SPIDEY, BUT I WAS WORRIED MY STYLE WOULD NOT BE SUITABLE FOR THE CHARACTER.

BUT *SPIDER-MAN NOIR* IS A TOTALLY DIFFERENT BEAST. AND IT'S DOWN MY ALLEY.

IT'S DARK, GRITTY AND, AS IF IT WEREN'T ALREADY PERFECT, IT'S SET IN THE '30S. WHAT WOULD ULTIMATELY SEAL THE DEAL

FOR ME WAS THAT THE MAIN STORY FOR THIS PROPOSED FIVE-ISSUE MINISERIES WOULD HAVE PETER TRAVEL ALL AROUND THE WORLD. IT WAS A DREAM PROJECT THAT I NEVER EVEN DREAMED ABOUT, A SUPER HERO COMIC BUT SET IN THE PLACE AND TIME THAT I LOVED DRAWING! NOW, IT'S FEBRUARY OF 2020, AND WHILE YOU ARE READING THIS I'M DRAWING MARGIE'S FABULOUS SCRIPT DESCRIBING SPIDEY HAVING HIS ADVENTURE IN LONDON WHILE AT THE SAME TIME I CAN'T STOP WONDERING WHICH NEXT SURPRISE THIS CIRCLED LIFE (AND MARGIE'S SCRIPTS!) WILL THROW AT ME. HOPE YOU ENJOY WHAT WE'VE GOT IN STORE!

JUAN FERREYRA

MARGIE AND JUAN HAVE BROUGHT THEIR A-GAME, READERS, AND BELIEVE ME WHEN I TELL YOU, YOU AREN'T READY FOR WHAT THEY'VE GOT IN STORE FOR YOUR FAVORITE GUNSLINGING GUMSHOE IN OUR NEXT FEW ISSUES!

BUT WHILE WE'RE WAITING, WE NEED YOUR HELP!

WE'D LOVE TO INCLUDE YOUR FAN MAIL IN OUR NEXT ISSUE, BUT WE AREN'T SURE WHAT TO CALL OUR LETTER COLUMN! IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS, SEND THEM OUR WAY AT SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM AND BE SURE TO MARK THEM "OKAY TO PRINT"! WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK OF OUR FIRST ISSUE TOO!

SEE YOU IN THE FUNNY PAGES,

DEVIN

2.5.2020



ISSUE #2